

KENTUCKY COMMISSION ON WOMEN

Political Participation 2012 Fact Sheet

Women in the U.S. Congress and State Legislatures

2012 U.S. Congress₁

Total Women/ Total Senate	Total Women/ Total House	% Women Overall
17/100 (17%)	73/435 (16.8%)	90/535 (16.8%)

2012 State Legislatures

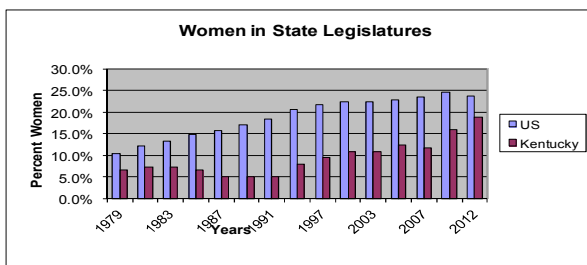
- Women make up 1,747 of 7,382 (23.7%) of all state legislators in the United States.₁
- Kentucky ranks 38th in percentage of women state legislators, with 18.8% female membership which is up from its 47th ranking in 2008.₁

Did You Know?

In November of 2010, the first two women of color were elected as governors—Susana Martinez (Latina) in New Mexico and Nikki Haley (Asian American) in South Carolina.

2012 Kentucky State Legislature₁

Total Women/ Total Senate	Total Women/ Total House	% Women Overall
6/38 (15.8%)	20/100 (20%)	26/138 (18.8%)



Kentucky Elected City Officials

	% are Women
County Judge Exec. ₂	4.10%
Mayor ₃	21.17%
Commissioner ₃	34.00%
Council Member ₃	34.08%

Kentucky Women and the Judiciary₄

Women / Total Judges	% of Total
Supreme Court	2 / 7 28.6%
Chief Justice	0 / 1 0%
Court of Appeals	6 / 14 42.9%
Chief Appellate Judge	0 / 1 0%
Circuit Court	37 / 146 25.3%
Chief Regional Circuit Judge	1 / 8 12.5%
District Judge	45 / 116 38.8%
Chief Regional District Judge	5 / 8 62.5%

Did You Know?

During Governor Beshear's first 100 days in office, he appointed 268 women to boards and commissions and only 62 men to promote gender equality. To date, the governor has appointed 1,192 women to boards and commissions.₅

Women and Voting

In the United States:

- The proportion of women voters has outnumbered the proportion of men voters in every presidential election since 1980.₁

In Kentucky:

- There are 1,540,892 registered female voters in Kentucky (2011). 48.39% of registered women voted in the 2010 Kentucky general election while 49.87% of registered men turned out to vote.₆
- Of the 1.4 million votes cast in the 2010 Kentucky general election, 52.2% of the voters were women. During the 2008 presidential election, 54.1% of the voters were women.₆

Sources:

- ₁Center for American Women and Politics—cawp.rutgers.edu
- ₂Kentucky County Judge/Executive Association—kcjea.org
- ₃Kentucky League of Cities Elected City Officials Demographics Analysis—klc.org/
- ₄Kentucky Court of Justice—courts.ky.gov
- ₅Governor's Office, Kentucky Boards and Commissions—governor.ky.gov/office/Pages/bc.aspx
- ₆Kentucky State Board of Elections—elect.ky.gov